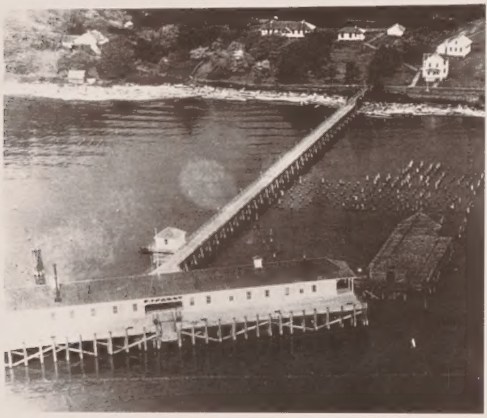
Visit the Columbia River's

"Ellis Island"

Columbia River Quarantine Station
Knappton Cove, Washington



U.S. Public Health Quarantine Station
1899-1938

Thousands of immigrants, lured to the Pacific Northwest by the salmon and timber industries, passed through a U.S. required health inspection at this Port of Entry. The effective control of communicable diseases in the lower Columbia River area is attributed to the Station's work.

Old Quarantine Hospital (Pesthouse)

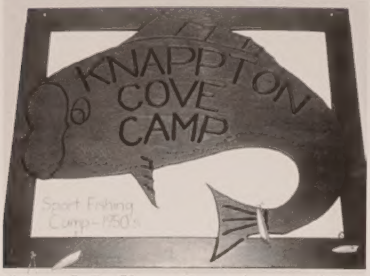
"Everyone has a horror of catching plague, cholera, yellow fever, smallpox, jail fever or leprosy. When a person catches any one of these diseases...the first thing they say is...
TAKE HIM TO THE PESTHOUSE!"
~Excerpt from 1912
US Public Health Bulletin

HEALTH GUARDIANS AT THE GATE

In 1891 the U.S. mandated the medical inspection of all arriving immigrants. Although Ellis Island handled the largest numbers, there were other Ports of Entry. Thousands of immigrants passed through health inspection at the Columbia River Quarantine Station, which was equipped for fumigation and health inspection.

Columbia River Quarantine Station Personnel
Circa 1902-1905

300 Years at Knappton Cove



1700's---Chinook Indians Camping & Fishing Grounds

1792---British Ship Chatham (Vancouver's expedition) documents purchase of salmon from Chinook Indians at the Cove.

1805---Lewis & Clark Expedition camps on north shore of Columbia River in "horriable" weather.

1814---British Navy Ship, Isaac Todd, anchors offshore at the Cove with Jane Barnes aboard (first white woman in lower Columbia River area). Location named 'Todd's Bay.'

1853---Job Lamley takes up 301-acre Donation Land claim at the Cove.

1869---J.B. Knapp purchases east part of land claim & founds sawmill town of Knappton.

1876---Joseph Hume purchases remaining property for fish cannery: Eureka & Epicure Packing Co.

1870's---Immigrants flow into Pacific NW attracted by the salmon fishing and logging industries.

1899---Concern about communicable disease leads US Government to purchase cannery site and convert facility to the Columbia River Quarantine Station. Thousands of European & Asian immigrants pass through this public health station.

1938---Station closes due to medical advances & better health controls. Bureau of Lighthouses maintains navigational beacon on the dock.

1943---US Army Signal Corps stays briefly at Knappton Cove.

"Fishin' in the 50's" Exhibit

Knappton Cove Camp was a favorite Sports Fishing Campground & Moorage in the 1950's

1950---Clarence & Katharine Bell purchase site at government surplus auction & establish Knappton Cove Camp.

1960---Hwy 401 cuts through property at river frontage.

1970---Storms severely damage dock.

1975---Mr. Bell has dock demolished, salvaging as much as possible.

1980---Site is placed on National Register of Historic Places.

1995---KNAPPTON COVE HERITAGE CENTER established in the Lazaretto (Hospital) Building.

2005---Museum Receives Non-Profit Status

Bernita's prize salmon catch at Knappton Cove Camp 1950

TOUR GROUPS WELCOME!

"It's A Small World"--Clothespin Exhibit
Come see a collection of very small dolls and vintage laundry accoutrements.
HERITAGE GIFT & CRAFT SHOP

The Knappton Cove Heritage Center is a nonprofit organization committed to preservation and interpretation of the layers of history at this historic site. Donations are tax deductible.

HOURS: Open Summer Saturday Afternoons, 1-4 pm Memorial Day through Labor Day, for Special Events, Tour Groups, Field Trips, and By Appointment.

LOCATION: 3 miles upriver (East) from the North end of the Astoria/Megler Bridge-521 WA State Hwy 401. Look for the vintage Gillnet boat just East of the driveway and the large piling field offshore.

For Information Contact: Nancy Bell Anderson
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email: thecove@theoregonshore.com

U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
1798

Knappton Cove Heritage Center

"Experience History Where it Happened!"

Preserving irreplaceable historic & cultural resources
in the (Lazaretto) hospital building of the
U.S. Columbia River Quarantine Station, 1899-1938.

Watercolor by A. Stoppiello

For information call 503-738-5206
www.knapptoncoveheritagecenter.org
email: thecove@theoregonshore.com

U.S. Columbia River
Quarantine Station
1899-1938
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Columbia River Quarantine Station Personnel, 1906

In 1891 the U.S. mandated the medical inspection of all arriving immigrants. Although Ellis Island handled the largest number, thousands passed through health inspection at the Columbia River Quarantine Station between 1899 and 1938.

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The Columbia River's 'Ellis Island'

Columbia River Quarantine Station Personnel, 1906

In 1891, the U.S. mandated the medical inspection of all arriving immigrants. Although Ellis Island handled the largest numbers, thousands passed through health inspection at the Columbia River Quarantine Station between 1899-1938.

Front: Old Quarantine Hospital, aka the "Pesthouse"

www.knapptoncoveheritagecenter.org
email: knapptoncove@gmail.com

Rats carry plague, mosquitoes carry yellow fever.
Plague and yellow fever cause quarantine.
Quarantine means expense.
Ship captains, destroy your rats and mosquitoes,
and not only save your owners money,
but save lives.

"A WORD TO SHIP CAPTAINS ABOUT QUARANTINE"
Public Health Bulletin, 1912

Columbia River Quarantine Station

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Ships came from around the world. In 1899, the year the station opened, shipps arrived from Germany, Norway, Britain, Japan, Russia, France and Peru.

Visit Knappton Cove Heritage Center
www.knapptoncoveheritagecenter.org
email: knapptoncove@gmail.com

A Visitor to Knappton Cove

"Jimmie" from ROXBURG ship with two monkeys, enjoying a little sunshine while docked at Knappton Cove, 1902. According to the log book, The ROXBURG was moored here for disinfecting procedures.

Photo courtesy of Columbia River Maritime Museum
www.knapptoncoveheritagecenter.org

Ole Estoos, holding salmon, 1902. Ole was a long term and faithful employee at the U.S. Columbia River Quarantine Station. He emigrated from Norway at 18, as an apprenticed carpenter.

Photo courtesy of Columbia River Maritime Museum